

Week Ending November 23, 1997

Released 3:00 pm, November 24, 1997

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 3.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending November 23, 1997. The main farming activities for the week were harvesting soybeans, planting wheat and feeding cattle. Rain continues to delay harvesting of crops across the state. Soil moisture conditions were rated 1 percent short, 49 percent adequate and 50 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	1996	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Cotton	Harvested	97	95	99	97	--	--	--	--	--
Soybeans	Harvested	94	90	97	93	--	--	--	--	--
Wheat	Planted	89	82	97	92	0	3	30	65	2
	Emerged	79	72	92	83					
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	95	93	100	100	--	--	--	--	--
Pecans	Harvested	51	48	55	57	0	6	39	53	2
Cattle						1	6	26	58	9

### County Agent Comments

"Cotton harvest should be complete this week if weather conditions are favorable. Producers are anticipating record yields somewhere around 930 pounds per acre, after ginning is complete. Many producers were able to subsoil since we missed last week's rains."

— Ann Ruscoe, Coahoma County

"Soybeans are being cut at high moisture between showers. Farmers are looking at the calendar realizing that dry harvest days are numbered. Mostly scrapping is being done in cotton fields. Seedbed preparation is about 40-50 percent complete throughout the county."

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie County

"Several more days of dry weather are needed to complete all harvesting operations and cotton stalk destruction. There is still a lot of late planted soybeans in the field. Feeding of hay to cattle has now begun due to the killing frost that we received."

— Ben Harlow, Calhoun County

"Producers were able to get into the soybean fields only 3 days last week because of wet and soggy fields. Yields of late planted soybeans are surprisingly good, averaging about 30 plus bushels per acre. The late soybean crop is only about 30 percent harvested. Hay feeding has begun in earnest. The quality of stored hay is generally good."

— Stanley Wise, Alcorn County

"Heavy frosts have ended warm season forage growth. Cattlemen are feeding hay to cattle and grazing ryegrass. Beef producers are actively seeking bulls for next spring. Most of the fall calves have gone to market that are going to be sold. Cull cows are also being sold."

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha County

"Heavy rain has caused delays in most farming operations. Some beef producers are feeding hay at a record pace and hoping winter pastures will soon be ready to graze."

— Roger D. Jones, Perry County

"Winter grazing is responding well to fertilization and weather conditions are moderate."

— Mark Mowdy, Franklin County

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Mississippi Cooperative  
Extension Service  
Ronald A. Brown, Director

Southern Regional  
Climate Center  
Louisiana State University  
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Mississippi Agricultural  
Statistics Service  
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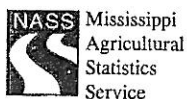
Weather Summary for November 17, 1997 to November 17, 1997 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale													
Cleveland													
Tunica													
Extreme/Average													
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	65	15	40	49	-9	0.10	-1.55	1	2.08	56	39	46	
Memphis	63	22	45	51	-6	0.00	-1.64	0	1.97				
Oxford	66	18	43	50	-7	0.10	-1.42	2	2.11				
Extreme/Average	66	15	43	50	-7	0.07	-1.53	1	2.05	56	39	46	
3. Northeast													
Booneville	64	20	42	49	-7	0.27	-1.25	2	1.88				
Corinth	66	18	45	52	-7	0.28	-1.21	2	1.79				
Iuka	64	15	39			0.25		1	1.70				
Pontotoc	65	18	43	51	-8	0.03	-1.45	2	2.31	57	38	48	0.06
Tupelo	63	19	44	51	-7	0.02	-1.44	1	2.03				
Verona	65	21	43			0.12		3	2.79	55	36	47	0.08
Extreme/Average	66	15	43	51	-8	0.16	-1.33	2	2.08	57	36	47	0.06
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	66	24	46	56	-10	0.14		2	1.95	61	45	54	
Greenwood	66	20	45	53	-8	0.07	-1.34	2	1.34				
Rolling Fork													
Stoneville													
Yazoo City	67	24	47	55	-8	0.49	-0.84	2	1.63				
Extreme/Average	68	20	46	55	-9	0.23	-1.14	2	1.64	61	45	54	
5. Central													
Carthage	69	22	40	53	-13	1.04	-0.32	2	1.95				
Jackson	67	24	48	55	-7	0.93	-0.42	3	2.21				
Winona	64	17	41	50	-9	0.25	-1.35	2	0.38				
Extreme/Average	69	17	43	53	-10	0.74	-0.70	2	1.51				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville	66	23	43			1.19	-0.14	1	2.96	53	42	48	
Columbus	68	23	48			0.52		1	2.27				
State University	67	34	53	53	0	0.53	-0.76	1	1.54	58	36	49	
Extreme/Average	68	23	48	53	-5	0.75	-0.56	1	2.26	58	36	48	
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	70	27	49			0.45		2	2.81	67	39	54	
Natchez													
Oakley	70	18	46			0.65	-0.71	3	1.87	61	41	51	
Vicksburg													
Extreme/Average	70	18	47			0.55	-0.81	3	2.34	67	39	53	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	69	27	51	58	-7	1.55	+0.50	3	3.76				
McComb	68	29	52	57	-5	2.80	+1.52	3	6.43				
Extreme/Average	69	27	51	57	-6	2.18	+1.01	3	5.10				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont													
Hattiesburg	70	28	49	57	-8	1.19	+0.01	2	4.43				
Laurel													
Meridian	68	23	47	55	-7	0.21	-1.15	3	2.19				
Newton	68	22	48	54	-5	0.39	-1.00	2	2.10	57	36	47	0.06
Extreme/Average	70	22	48	55	-7	0.60	-0.71	2	2.91	57	36	47	0.06
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	77	27	53			0.80		2	4.65				
Biloxi	73	30	55			1.20		4	4.61				
Gulfport													
Pascagoula	75	30	52	61	-9	2.58	+1.81	4	6.05				
Poplarville	73	28	53	59	-6	1.57	+0.51	1	3.75	64	48	57	0.08
Extreme/Average	77	27	53	60	-7	1.54	+0.62	3	4.77	64	48	57	0.08
State	77	15	47	54	-7	0.76	-0.57	2	2.74	67	36	50	0.07

DFN = Departure from Normal.

United States Department Of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Agricultural Statistician  
Post Office Box 980  
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

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